

15th April, 1959.

COCOM Document No. 3482B

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

7 a. IC/DV

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

ON

THE FORTHCOMING MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON EXPORT CONTROLS

6th, 9th and 13th April 1959

Present: Belgium(Luxembourg), Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

Reference: COCOM Document No. 3456.

1. The NETHERLANDS Delegate stated that he had been instructed to inform the Committee that his Government had the strongest reservations to make as to the place and date chosen for the next meeting of the Sub-Committee on Export Controls. Without wishing in any way to criticize the Italian Government's generous offer, the Netherlands authorities believed it preferable for the Sub-Committee to meet in Paris, where the Coordinating Committee had its offices and Secretariat. They feared, as had already been pointed out, that the Italian invitation might constitute a precedent, and that meetings in distant capitals might entail the lengthy absence of officials whom they could ill afford to spare. For all these administrative and financial considerations, the Netherlands Government were not in favour of holding meetings of the Sub-Committee elsewhere than in Paris. As to the date of the coming meeting, the Delegate explained that his Government would prefer to postpone it until the end of May or the beginning of June. He regretted that there had been some delay in making known his Government's views, and stated that the latter would, however, endeavour to send an expert to Rome on the 19th May, should the other delegations be unable to take into consideration the reservations he had just made.

2. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate, while agreeing that the idea of reciprocal visits was sound and after disclaiming any wish to be ungracious to the Italian invitation, stated that his Government would prefer the Sub-Committee to continue to hold their meetings in Paris. The same experts as had participated in the work of the last Sub-Committee, i.e. Messrs. R. Wood, M.H. Smith and H.J. Browning, would attend the meeting in Rome. The Delegate added that it was of course understood that the Chairman of the Sub-Committee would come to Paris to make the usual oral report to the Coordinating Committee.

3. The ITALIAN Delegate thanked the Netherlands and United Kingdom Delegates for their statements, and regretted that they had been unable to give this information to the Committee within the prescribed time-limits (cf. COCOM Document No. 3456). He recalled that, during the meeting of the 9th March, there had been only favourable reactions to the idea of such a meeting which aimed at establishing more fruitful contacts between the services responsible for the application of the control system. In reply to a comment from his Netherlands colleague, the Delegate stated that the question of Secretariat help for this meeting had been studied by his Government, together with all the other organisational matters arising therefrom. As to the change of date advocated by the Netherlands Delegation, he undertook to inform his Government, but explained that the latter had already made all the necessary arrangements in view of the date chosen. In conclusion, the Delegate once again urged his colleagues to provide as rapidly as possible a list of their delegates and experts who would be attending the Rome meeting.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

COCOM Document No. 3482B

4. The UNITED STATES Delegate stated that, although the proposal for meetings of the Sub-Committee in capitals other than Paris had not originated from his Delegation, his Government had heartily endorsed the idea as well as the idea of meeting in Rome. He hoped, therefore, not only that the next meeting would be held in Rome as planned, but that the practice of holding meetings in other capitals would be continued. He referred to the courtesy of the Italian Government in inviting the Sub-Committee to meet in their capital and expressed the view that the primary factor for consideration as to the date of the meeting should be the convenience of the Italian Government and of M. Blondiau, Chairman of the Sub-Committee. He noted that both M. Blondiau and the Italian Government had indicated a preference for the date of 19th May, and stated that his Government were therefore making the necessary arrangements to attend the meeting in Rome on that date. The Delegate expressed the hope that other Member Governments would be able to make similar arrangements.

5. The COMMITTEE noted that it would be most difficult to find a new date suitable for all and confirmed that the forthcoming meeting of the Sub-Committee would take place as scheduled in Rome on the 19th May. It was understood that the Chairman of the Sub-Committee would report to the Coordinating Committee in Paris, upon his return from the Italian capital.

6. The NETHERLANDS Delegate undertook to transmit the record of this discussion to his authorities, and stated once again that the latter would do their utmost to send representatives to Rome on the 19th May.

7. On the 9th April, the CANADIAN Delegate stated that his authorities wished to thank the Italian Delegation for their invitation to the forthcoming meeting of the Sub-Committee on Export Controls and, while not considering sending a Delegation from Ottawa, they had insisted that Canada be represented. They had agreed that a Paris-based Canadian official should be sent to Rome and the Delegate undertook to supply the name of this official to the Italian Delegation as soon as possible.

8. The UNITED STATES Delegate read the names of the officials who would represent the United States Government at the Sub-Committee meeting in Rome: Messrs. Allen, Goings, Anderson and Burton, who had moreover already taken part in the work of the Sub-Committee, in November last.

9. The ITALIAN Delegate thanked his Canadian and United States colleagues, and once again requested the other Delegations to supply in writing as soon as possible the list of their representatives at the coming Sub-Committee meeting.

10. On the 13th April, the NETHERLANDS Delegate stated that he regretted to inform the Committee that his Government had not found it convenient to send someone to Rome for the forthcoming meeting of the Sub-Committee on Export Controls. He pointed out that this decision in no way reflected upon the Italian Government's generous offer. The Netherlands authorities appreciated the spirit in which this invitation had been extended. Their decision had been taken for the reasons already given during the meeting of the 6th April. Furthermore, the Netherlands authorities feared that meetings of the Coordinating Committee and of the Sub-Committee outside Paris would draw unnecessary notice and lead to unfortunate publicity contrary to the general interests of member countries. Nevertheless, to prove that they had no wish to be absent from this meeting, and in reply to the Italian Delegate's specific question, the Netherlands Government had decided to have as their representative Mr. W. van WALLEN, Commercial First Secretary at the Netherlands Embassy in Rome.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 3 -

COCOM Document No. 3482B

11. The ITALIAN Delegate took note of his Netherlands colleague's statement and was glad to learn that the Netherlands Delegation would be represented in Rome.

12. On the same day, the FRENCH Delegate informed the Committee that the French experts attending the Sub-Committee meeting would be Messrs. Varnoux, Guinebault and Poirier.

C O N F I D E N T I A L